

Post Shorts

APG cable channel switches to Channel 97

Aberdeen Proving Ground residents who receive cable through Comcast can now view both the APG and Harford County Public Service Channels on a cable ready TV set or through a Comcast Digital cable box. The Harford County Cable channel will broadcast on Channel 21. APG's Cable channel can be viewed on Channel 97.

Kirk closes for holiday

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will be closed July 2 for a Training Day and July 5 for Independence Day.

Please plan accordingly to pick up prescriptions before July 2.

For medical services needed after hours, weekends or federal holidays, contact Staff Duty by calling 410-278-1725 or 443-807-0725 and initiate a referral. To avoid Point of Service charges, patients will need a referral to go to any urgency clinic. Emergency room visits do not require a referral.

RAB meeting June 24

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board Meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., June 24, at the Ramada Conference Center, 1700 Van Bibber Road, Edgewood.

The topic of the meeting will be an update of the Canal Creek Study Area.

For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 800-APG-9998.

NFFE Local 178 to host town hall meeting

Local 178, National Federation of Federal Employees will host a town hall meeting 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Union Hall, building E4415 Miles Road, Edgewood Area, Aberdeen Proving Ground June 24.

The guest speaker will be John Griffin, National Business Representative, eastern region.

Topics will include a lab demonstration, overtime grievances, NSPS transitions, and more, followed by an open discussion.

The meeting is open to all APG employees.

For more information, contact Lisa Foust, Local 178

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APG Senior Service College Fellowship graduates first class

ATC remembers two fallen workers during dedication ceremony

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Beneath a clear, blue sky, friends, relations, coworkers and military leaders gathered in solemn remembrance of two U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center workers who lost their lives in the service of their country.

During the May 21 ceremony, ATC's H-Field Firing Range in the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, was dedicated to Mark A. Henry and the range test operations center was dedicated to Joseph E. Gray, a year after they suffered fatal injuries in an explosion while test firing a T-55 Soviet Tank.

The program included remarks by Col. Jeffrey P. Holt, ATC commander, and Dr. James Streilein, executive director of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, ATC's higher headquarters.

Holt said the ceremony culminated several weeks of hard work by the men and women of the ATC Team and the APG Garrison.

"It is our sincere hope that today's ceremony will provide at least some small comfort to the Families and friends still grieving the loss of two remarkable men," he said.

Streilein said that data provided by ATC test ranges is "truly important to the Army" and that the mission would not be accomplished without the partnership of military, civilians



Photo courtesy of the U.S. ARMY ABERDEEN TEST CENTER
From left, Col. Jeffrey P. Holt, commander of the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center; Chap. (Lt. Col.) Harry Rauch of the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command; Susan Bilhorn, senior vice-president of Jacobs Engineering Corporation and Col. Timothy Gowan, former commander of the Maryland National Guard's 29th Combat Aviation Brigade look on silently as Douglas Mauzy, and widows Christina Gray, and Trudy Henry, embrace in front of a memorial to the victims of the May 2009 tank fire accident during the dedication of the Mark A. Henry Firing Range and the Joseph E. Gray Operations Center at the former H-Field test site May 21. Mauzy is the lone survivor of the accident.

and contractors.

"Through the years, through the dedication of the people of ATC and other places, we have the best Army in the world," he said. "It is important that everybody

is committed to that work, [and we] do appreciate the contributions and sacrifices."

Honored guests of the program included Henry's wife, Trudy Henry, his parents Don-

ald and Agnes Henry, sons Christopher, Cody and Curtis, and daughter-in-law Nancy Henry.

Gray Family members
See **DEDICATION**, page 9

APG Summer Ball celebrates Army's 235th birthday



Photo by JIM BRIDGES, GARRISON PHOTOGRAPHER
From left: Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Rhoades, Gold Star Family Members Cindy and Gary Lohman, Garrison Commander Col. Orlando Ortiz, participate in a cake cutting ceremony while Lt. Gen. James Pillsbury, deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, looks on during the Aberdeen Proving Ground Summer Ball held at Top of the Bay, June 4.

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

It was a night to remember as the Aberdeen Proving Ground community celebrated the Army's 235th birthday during the APG Summer Ball at Top of the Bay June 4.

Capt. J. Lee Starr, the G-1 for 20th Support Command (CBRNE), served as the master of ceremonies. Starr welcomed guests to the event, noting distinguished guests and Gold Star Family members, Cindy and Gary Lohman, in attendance that evening.

Starr also thanked the Association of the United States Army for purchasing 40 tickets for junior enlisted Soldiers and their guests.

Garrison chaplain (Capt.) Jonathan Morse gave the invocation, praying for those currently serving in harm's way.

"Help us to stay courageous as we fight in distant lands. We do not choose our battles but we make an oath to go," Morse prayed. "Keep our Army strong, as it is the strength of this nation."

After the invocation, Patricia Jackson,

See **BALL**, page 9



Photo by ERIC SEMKE, DES
Directorate of Emergency Services K9 officers lead fellow police officers, Police Academy students and Family members toward the Aberdeen Town Hall and Police Station on Franklin Street near the end of the Special Olympics of Maryland Torch Run June 8.

DES has largest Torch Run participants for SOMD

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

The largest group of participants ever turned out for the annual Special Olympics of Maryland Torch Run hosted by the Directorate of Emergency Services June 8. Each year, DES police officers join Harford County deputies, police officers from the cities of Havre de Grace and Aberdeen, and

Maryland State Troopers in the Harford County portion of the run on Pulaski Highway.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® for Special Olympics raises funds for Special Olympics events worldwide. Law enforcement officers from every state and more than 38 countries carry the Flame of Hope in honor of the Special Olympics athletes in their area and around the world. It is the larg-

est grassroots fund raiser and public awareness vehicle in the world for Special Olympics.

APG Community police officer Mike "Big Mike" Farlow organized this year's event which included the APG Police Academy, the DES Special Reaction Team and K-9 Unit, and for the first time Family members joined in. The groups met in the Ryan Furniture store

See **TORCH**, page 17

LEAVE DONATIONS

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). For more information, call Carolyn Russell, 410-278-5327, e-mail carolyn.russell2@us.army.mil.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

April Avina	Wayne Erb	John McVey	Thomas Shumate
Shanelle Bell	Juanita Guzman	Larry Maines	Philip Sibley
Debra Bonsall	Walter Holland	Harold Morrison	Betty Spurlin
Georgia Braun	Cathleen Holmes	Amanda Morris	Earl Taylor
Alena Calm	Kari Jackson	Lori Nguyen	Kavena Turner
Robert Cook	Carolyn Johnson	Amanda Nordell	Luis Villafane
Charlene Corun	Linda Kenney	Marie D. Nowak	Victoria Yates-
John Daigle	Angela Lambert	Michele Reamey	Sparks
Meg Downey	Anthony Lee	Tammy Rush	



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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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APG civilians and contractors mentor senior Capstone Projects

Story and photo by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

More than a dozen Aberdeen Proving Ground civilians and contractors stood alongside the students they mentored while displaying the results of months of collaborative research during the annual Gallery Walk of Senior Capstone Projects at Aberdeen High School May 18.

In their senior year, students enrolled in the Science and Mathematics Academy conduct a capstone research project under the mentorship of a professional scientist, mathematician or engineer. The yearlong project concludes with a detailed, scientific poster and presentation to peers, faculty, parents and mentors as well as an awards program for outstanding achievements.

Participating organizations from APG included the APG Garrison; Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; and the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center; Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense; Materiel Systems Analysis Activity; Public Health Command (Provisional); and Army Research Laboratory.

Projects

The APG Garrison’s Bryant DeBruyne, a contractor with the Directorate of Public Works, mentored Montrell Koonce in the creation of a comprehensive bicycle map of Harford County. The interactive Geographic Information Systems map provides details such as percent slope, location of multimodal transportation sites such as bus stops, parks and road hazards. Harford County Government has included the interactive map on its Web site and during the May 20 Bike to Work Day in Bel Air, Channel 11 News interviewed DeBruyne and Koonce about the project.

Koonce said the multi-year project will provide better information about transportation options and promote the use of bicycles and other greener forms of transportation.

“I feel like I accomplished something for the community,” he said. “I had a great mentor who guided me every step of the way.”

The project will continue next year with another senior and focus on levels of comfort, road conditions and traffic, DeBruyne said.

“Montrell was very devoted to this project and eager to learn,” he said.

Koonce plans to attend the University of Portland to study History.

Dr. Deidre DeRoia, DPW, teamed



Science and Mathematics Academy senior Montrell Koonce and Bryant DeBruyne of the Directorate of Public Works stand in front of the display of their bicycle map project during the Gallery Walk of Senior Capstone Projects at Aberdeen High School May 18.

with Megan Lesniewski in the project, ‘Evaluating decomposition rates and leaf litter colonization of two age classes of created wetlands.’

DeRoia said the project required the placing of decomposition bags at two locations – the Highlands School and Mount Royal storm water pond - and then collecting samples for analysis two weeks later.

“With the heavy snowfall this past winter we had the worst conditions for gathering samples,” she said. “Megan did an amazing job.”

Lesniewski said what she learned about environmental effects on wetlands will aid her in her studies. She plans to attend Washington College to study Microbiology.

“I loved the project and I love my mentor,” she said. “She made learning fun despite the harsh conditions and I don’t think I would have enjoyed it as much with anyone else.”

Senior Sergiu Costinas collaborated with MRICD’s Dr. John McDonough in the research project ‘Neuroprotection against nerve agent using a blood glutamate scavenging system in rats.’ The project evaluated the effectiveness of a glutamate scavenging system to decrease brain damage from seizures in an animal model. Costinas said data indicates that scavenging may not be a practical treatment for the control of brain damage after nerve agent exposure.

“It was difficult at first and I had to do a lot of research but I was more comfortable once I got into the lab and started working,” Costinas said. “I’ve since developed a passion for biology,” he added.

McDonough, whose wife teaches Biology in the SMA, said he has been mentoring students for 20 years. He called Costinas “one of the brightest and most motivated I’ve ever seen.”

“The Capstone Projects is a great program,” he said. “Many of these students go on to college and some with scholarships. I’m just grateful to APG for the positive impact we’re having on these [youths].”

Other participants agreed. Dr. Benedict Capacio of MRICD, mentored Peter Cioloca in the project titled, ‘Microextraction of alkylmethylphosphonic acid in synthetic urine using polymer-coated stir bars.’

He said he likes to try to get students interested in the organization’s summer intern program.

“Then when they come back in their senior year, they’re ready to go,” he said. “Peter did very well. All these students are very motivated and very willing to work hard.”

“My mentor was really good,” Cioloca said. “He gave me specific priorities and I was able to work on my own. I wasn’t sure about internships but I got a lot out of it.”

Cioloca plans to attend the University of Maryland, Baltimore County to study Biology and Music.

Devin Konstans who was mentored by Dr. Brian Hampton of AMSAA in ‘Revisiting efficiency enhancing device for photovoltaic solar panels,’ or, tracking the sun using multiple axes, said his year started out “stressful” because at first he didn’t think he needed any help.

“I had multiple errors that had to be modified and then we had to reorder parts and make mechanical adjustments,” he said. “At first I didn’t keep him informed as much as I should have but I ended up learning a lot from him.”

Konstans plans to attend the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Honors Program to study Physics and Psychology.

“I really learned the value of scientific method,” said Emily Krause.

Michael Cain, a team leader in the Advanced CBRNE Training Team in ECBC mentored Krause in ‘Observations on the relationship between weather variables and pollen levels.’

“Scientific method is a lot of work,” Krause said. “This project required a lot of research and working with statistics but I had fun doing it.”

“She’s an innovative student,” Cain said. “Whenever she got stuck she would always figure something out.”

Cain said that with his youngest child in college now, mentoring is a chance for him “to kind of relive those years.”

“The Capstone Program is absolutely tremendous,” he said. “We have the opportunity to grow that you just don’t have in other programs. It’s an absolutely tremendous idea.”

ARL mentees present capstone project at Aberdeen High School

Story by
JENNIFER A. DOWNING
ARL

On May 18 at Aberdeen High School, two participants in the Science and Mathematics Academy capstone project presented their findings on Voice over Internet Protocol research.

Dr. Lisa Marvel, from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory CISD’s Network Security Branch, mentored Kristofer Castro, 18, and David Bowman, 17. Both are seniors at Aberdeen High and have worked on their project since June 2009.

Bowman and Castro spoke confidently about their test results to a gymnasium filled with parents, teachers, mentors and other visitors. The knowledge gained from their VoIP came from months of research and experimentation. Their project explored computer network traffic and how voice is transmitted under various conditions.

“We tested VoIP and built a database to understand packet traffic,” explained Castro.

The students spoke of the many challenges they faced. In the end, they learned that a lot of the variances dealt with how the information was packaged and why wireless networks had fewer errors.

“Overall, the Maryland Science Academy taught me a lot about my reasoning skills and taking things step by step,”

said Bowman. “Dr. Marvel was a great mentor. She kept Kris and I on track and even bought us a lunch a few times. She is a great teacher and I appreciated her help with our capstone project.”

In March, the pair also presented their research to the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council. They detailed the challenges their project faced, from learning a new operating system to developing standardized scripts for testing network traffic under consistent conditions.

“There are lots of Aberdeen Proving Ground scientists who mentor the capstone projects,” Marvel said. “A colleague of mine, Mr. Robert Reschly, and I have been mentoring Kris and David. We have really enjoyed working with the students.”

After graduation Castro plans to attend the University of California at Berkley and major in Cognitive Sciences, Bowman will study English at the University of Maryland at College Park. Both students agree that working with ARL scientists helped them focus on their efforts and future.

The academy began in 2004 with a concept proposed by the Army and other science professionals associated with APG. Federal, state and local funds support the effort to bring this educational opportunity to students and staff.

APG organizations adopt two suggestions by APG employees

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Two Aberdeen Proving Ground employees recently learned the value of cost-saving ideas when their organizations adopted suggestions they made through the Army Suggestion Program.

Maj. Michael Berezcz, with the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense and civilian Michael B. Voit, with the U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center were awarded Department of the Army commendations for their suggestions.

Berezcz questioned the necessity of printed banner pages that were automatically produced by institute copy machines after every transaction and Voit suggested suspending the use of bar soap for the more economical, and sanitary, liquid soap in facility hand-wash areas.

The suggestions will result in significant savings to their organizations, according to Marge Sexton, APG Garrison ASP officer. Sexton said suggestions through the program don't have to be complicated; they just have to make sense.

"We are always looking for quality suggestions," said Marge Sexton, installation Army Suggestion Program coordinator. "If you see a problem, have a solution and [that solution] saves the government money, then it qualifies for submission into the Army Suggestion Program."

Berezcz, MRICD deputy operations

officer, said he submitted his idea after coworkers agreed that the automatic production of the banner pages seemed wasteful.

"I thought that if we have the one machine here printing out several hundred pages a month and add that to all the other printers around the institute, we could save large amounts of paper," he said. The machines also scan and sends e-mails, which are associated with seemingly unnecessary sheets, he added.

Berezcz tracked how many banner pages were produced by his office machine and multiplied that by the number of copy machines in use in the institute. His suggested the Information Technology staff should determine if banner pages are printed. As a result, the IT staff can disable the printing of banner pages and reduce energy and paper waste.

Reducing cost while improving efficiency is a way of life for Voit, who is a Lean Six Sigma certified green belt and soon-to-be black belt in the ATC Process Improvement Division. Voit said that around the time of his suggestion attention around the world was focused on the H1N1 Flu outbreaks.

"This was during the height of when people were encouraged to wash their hands often to avoid the spread of germs and viruses," he said.

He said he noticed that the only type of soap available in restrooms where

he worked was bar soap. He said while researching his suggestion he learned how it is possible for dirt to get into the cracks of bar soaps and instead of eliminating germs, further spread them from person to person.

"There are plenty of studies out there supporting the argument against the use of bar soaps," Voit said.

As a result, the Directorate of Public Works purchased and installed liquid soap dispensers in all ATC restrooms. Voit's citation states that 'replacing bar soap with liquid soap dispensers provides a more sanitary workplace, resulting in a healthier workforce and is proven more economical as well.'

Voit said he encourages others to look around their work areas and make suggestions.

"Look at ways to be more efficient, do more with less, and save resources," he said. "Sometimes all it takes is someone who can stand back and say 'there's got to be a better way.'"

For more information on the APG Army Suggestion Program, contact Sexton at 410-278-0944 or e-mail marjore.sexton1@us.army.mil.

Army Suggesters of the Year honored

The Secretary of the Army, John McHugh honored the Army's military and civilian Suggesters of the Year during a ceremony at the Pentagon April 14.

Sgt. Samuel Viall with the 4/6 Air Cavalry Squadron, Fort Lewis, Wash. Is the 2009 Military Suggester of the Year and James M. Gardner, a production machinery mechanic with the

Maintenance Division of the Manufacturing an Engineering Directorate at the Crane Army Ammunition Activity in Indiana, is the 2009 Civilian Suggester of the Year.

Viall, an airframe section sergeant, recommended the fabrication and use of a holding fixture to secure the jacket of the XM296 .50 caliber machine gun on an OH58D Kiowa Warrior Reconnaissance/Attack Helicopter to make sure the weapon is not damaged during maintenance. Flash suppressors are a vital part of the Kiowa's close air support operational capability. Viall's suggestion reduced the amount of damage to equipment during routine maintenance by 95 percent, helps the Army avoid thousands of dollars in maintenance and equipment costs and saves lives in combat.

Gardner's development of an A09-008, 30-millimeter Case Extraction Tool was successful in removing the casing from the round, causing rejections of High Explosive Incineration rounds to be destroyed and Armor Piercing Incinerating rounds to be sent to long-term storage. Gardner developed a "T" shaped cutting chisel that successfully removed the casing 100 percent of the time, thus eliminating the need for long-term storage of hazardous radioactive material and demilitarization of the explosives. The tool saved the Army more than \$650,000 during Fiscal Year 2009 and will save additional dollars each time the program is executed.

For more information, contact the Army Suggestion Program at <https://armysuggestions.army.mil>. AKO username and password required.

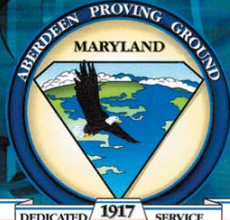
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 **410-278-0944**

 **armysuggestion program**

Community Notes

**THURSDAY
JUNE 17
SUNSET CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 to 8:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Experience a sunset to remember. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna flats area for a relaxing sail. Reservations are required.

For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

**FRIDAY
JUNE 18
MARYLAND WINE CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Maryland Wine Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). The ship will take a 90-minute cruise around the Susquehanna Flats area offering wine from a local vineyard, cheese and fruit tray. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

FAMILY CAMPFIRE

Come on out to the Pontoon Pier for a campfire program. Food and roasting sticks will be supplied; bring chairs. This program will be held 8 to 9:30 p.m. for all ages. The cost is \$3 per person or \$10 per Family (limit 5 per Family) and registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SATURDAY
JUNE 19
MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE**

The Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Margaritaville Cruise, 7 to 9 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Tickets cost \$40 per person (21 years of age or older). Set sail with island tunes, light munchies and margaritas. Reservations are required.

For more information or for reservations, call 410-939-4078.

TEXAS HOLD'EM

American Legion Susquehanna Post 135, 300 Cherry Street, Perryville, will

host a day of Texas Hold'em. The first game starts 1 p.m., the second game starts 6 p.m. Register by noon and 5 p.m. with a \$50 buy in. First come, first served. Sandwiches and light fare will be available.

For more information, call 410-642-2771.

MICRO ZOO

Come discover the cool and the creepy life forms in a drop of water which are visible only with the aid of a microscope. This program will be held 3 to 4 p.m. for ages 7 to adult, 7 to 10 with adult. The cost is \$2 and registration is required.

For more information, to register or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

CRITTER DINNER TIME

Come watch the turtles, fish and snakes eat while learning more about these fascinating creatures. This program will be held at 10:30 a.m. and is free for all ages. No registration required.

For more information or for directions to the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, call 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000, ext. 1688.

**SUNDAY
JUNE 20
FATHER'S DAY CRUISES**

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Father's Day Cruise aboard the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Three cruises will set sail: 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. Reservations are required.

For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

SUNSET CRUISE

The Chesapeake Heritage Conservancy, Inc. will offer a Sunset Cruise, 7 to 8:30 p.m., on the Skipjack Martha Lewis. Experience a sunset to remember. Tickets cost \$25 for adults and \$15 for children ages 10 and under. The ship will cruise around the Susquehanna flats area for a relaxing sail. Reservations are required.

For more information, for reservations or to purchase tickets, call 410-939-4078.

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president, at 410-436-5786 or Jan Kolkowski, Local 178 vice president, at 410-436-2755.

First Public Health Command 'O-Day' June 18

The U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional) will hold its first organization day June 18. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$6 for children ages 5 through 10; the Family cap is \$55.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Stephanie Cregar and Amy Bowen, 410-436-3919/3816; Donna Kutche, 410-436-2024; Shirley Eller and Tami Dillon, 410-436-2577/4160; Carolyn Johnson, 410-436-2332; Leah Badham, 410-436-3980; Ashley Wilmoth, 410-436-7654; Carroll Guthrie and Neoma Amberman, 410-436-2714; Claudia Coleman (Library), 410-436-3432; and Valerie Valiant, 410-436-2602.

Visit <https://ichppm2.amedd.army.mil/functions/commandinfo/Org-Day2010/default.aspx> for times and sign up for activities.

Veterans Job Fair

A U.S. Armed Forces Veterans Job Fair will be held 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Perry Point Veterans Affairs Medical Center, building 314, in Perryville June 30.

Government agencies, defense contractors, local employers and community service organizations will be in attendance. The job fair is open to all active duty, retired or former service members of the armed forces, including Reserve and National Guard, and their spouses. Admission and parking is free. Business attire is recommended. Bring plenty of resumes. A listing of attending organizations will be available online June 15 at <http://marylandvetinfo.blogspot.com/>. This event is sponsored by the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation veterans unit, Susquehanna Region, and Perry Point VAMC.

ACS to celebrate 45th Birthday July 22

Forty-five years of Army Community Service support to APG will be celebrated, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., July 22, at the Shore Park Area. All military, DoD civilians and Family members are invited to attend. Free tickets are available at the Aberdeen Area ACS, building 2754, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call 410-278-7572/4372.

Chapel News

Registration open for VBS

Registration is now open for the APG Main Post Chapel Ecumenical Vacation Bible School, which will be held June 21 through 25 from 6 to 8:45 p.m. for ages five through the sixth grade. This year's theme is "Egypt: Joseph's Journey From Prison to Palace." Pre-registration is required. To register contact Gerri Merkel, director of religious education, 410-278-2516, or e-mail gerri.merkel@conus.army.mil

Appreciation Picnic and Bike Rodeo, June 26

The Picerne Military Housing team invites residents to Aberdeen Proving Ground, 2727 Chesapeake Blvd. from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 26, for a Resident Appreciation Picnic. This free event offers many activities to include moon bounces for the kids, a mobile game theater, face painting, complimentary food and more. Residents can also enter a prize drawing to win a GPS and tickets to an Aberdeen IronBirds game.

Bring your bike along as the APG Garrison Directorate of Emergency Services will be hosting a Bike Rodeo to spread bike safety awareness to Families with children up to 18-years-old. The Bike Rodeo will feature stations for children to visit and learn about bike safety.

Representatives from DES, Army Community Service, Army Substance Abuse Program, APG Fire Department, Outdoor Recreation, Chesapeake Health, Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Child and Youth Services and the Community Health Nurse from Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will provide information, entertainment, activities and giveaways.

For more information about the Bike Rodeo call Community Policing Office Mike "Big Mike" Farlow, 410-278-3609.

For more information about Picerne and the picnic, contact Meagan Murray, 410-672-4072.

Toby Keith entertains huge crowd at APG

Story by
YVONNE JOHNSON
APG News

Country music star Toby Keith delivered sparkling pyrotechnics, patriotic songs and a foot-stomping good time during his first visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground June 5.

Army Entertainment, the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers' I. Am. Strong. program, and the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation hosted the event that drew more than 10,000 people to Shine Sports Field.

Guest performers included the sister act Carter's Chord and former American Idol Katherine McPhee.

Keith opened with hits from his current CD, 'American Ride,' then sang past hits like "I Love This Bar," "I Ain't As Good As I Once Was," "Shoulda Been A Cowboy," and "Beer For My Horses," as well as military favorites, "American Soldier" and "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)."

Supporters of the event included the Directorate of Emergency Services police, firefighter and medical personnel; the Directorate of Public Works technicians and safety personnel; and hundreds of volunteers who included Soldiers from the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course who assisted security personnel in screening guests at the entrance to the holding area.

In addition, members of the Warrant Officer Basic Course and BNCOC Class 24-04 and 27-04 staffed the beverage booths.

Members of BOSS, promoting sexual assault prevention, gave away scratch-and-win raffle tickets for meet-and-greets with the performers, t-shirts, and cell phone cases, aided by Carolyn Collins, BOSS program manager from the Pentagon.

"I try to get out and look at local leaders, groups and events," Collins said. "APG BOSS Soldiers are very proactive in their support of BOSS programs."

Most guests said that Keith was what drew them to the show.

"He's so wonderful and he does so much for the troops," said Joann Tompkins, who "came down with friends from Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania."

"I've attended other concerts here but I really enjoyed this one," said Joe Backhaus, a civilian with the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center who also drove down from his Pennsylvania home.

"He's wonderful," added Perry Campanaris of Ocean City as he took a break from the festivities due to a leg ailment.

"As much pain as I'm in, he takes me out of it," Campanaris said. "Toby is all I need right now."

For more information visit www.preventsexualassault.army.mil or www.boostmobile.com

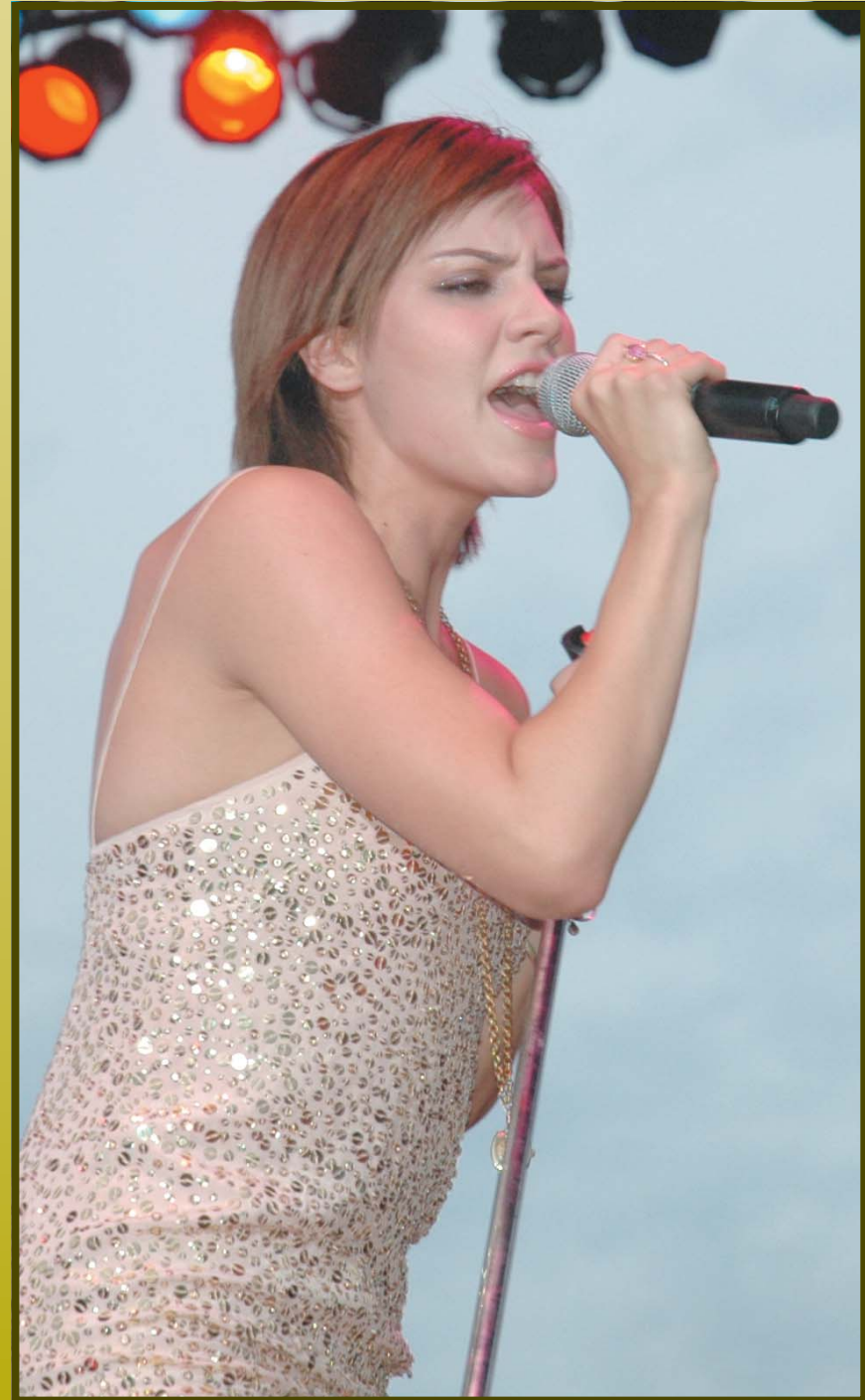


Fans whoop it up for Toby Keith's 'American Ride' concert.



Photos by YVONNE JOHNSON

Country music star Toby Keith performs one of his famous tunes for fans during the Army Entertainment Tour Concert at Aberdeen Proving Ground's Shine Sports Field June 5.



Katherine McPhee captures the audience with a ballad from her CD, "Unbroken" as she warms up the crowd for the headliner.



Photo by MATTHEW AUGHEY, FMWR

From left, Johanna, Becky and Emily Robertson, better known as Carter's Chord sing a song from their debut CD, "Young Love".



Fans relax before the Army Entertainment Tour concert featuring Toby Keith at Shine Sports Field June 5.

Dedication

From front page

included his wife Christina Gray, his parents Robert and Paulette, and sons Austin and Hunter.

Also, Douglas S. Mauzy, the lone survivor of the accident, attended with his wife, Linda.

The U.S. Army Materiel Command Band provided the program’s music and the Maryland National Guard’s 29th Aviation Brigade, the unit in which Gray served for 11 years, provided the color guard.

In addition, 29th Aviation provided a Blackhawk flyover.

During the ceremony, Gray was posthumously awarded the Department of the Army Meritorious Service Medal, signed by Brig. Gen. Alberto J. Jimenez, MDNG, and a Certificate of Meritorious Service from Jacobs Engineering.

Henry was posthumously awarded the DA Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service signed by John McHugh, Secretary of the Army.

The high point of the dedication was the unveiling of the granite memorial to Gray, Henry and Mauzy. The memorial sits at the entrance to the operations facility. It reads: “In memory of Mark Alan Henry and Joseph Edward Gray who gave



Photo courtesy of the U.S. ARMY ABERDEENTEST CENTER
Trudy Henry is comforted by Col. Jeffrey P. Holt, ATC commander, May 21, during the dedication of the Mark A. Henry Firing Range which was named after her late husband who was killed in a tank fire accident on the range the year before.

their lives in the line of duty, and in recognition of Douglas Scott Mauzy for his sacrifice in support of the ATC mission.”

After reading the inscription, Christina Gray, Trudy Henry and Mauzy hugged in front of the memorial for several tender

moments.

In closing, Holt said he hoped the day would bring some measure of comfort to Trudy Henry and Christina Gray and to the friends and Family of Doug and Linda Mauzy as he continues his recovery.

He said he hoped the parents received a glimpse into the world where their sons worked each day, adding that they were, “no longer the children you raised, but instead the respected men they became, each committed to serving our nation and its Soldiers.”

To the Henry children, Holt said he prayed the day would provide, “a symbolic beacon by which to help guide your lives,” and to young Austin and Hunter Gray, he added his wish that they return to H-Field and walk the grounds with their mother, “to better know the father taken far too early from your lives.”

Mauzy has undergone more than 20 surgical procedures since the accident, including skin grafts to his face and hands. He said he expects a long recovery and he expressed thanks to his Family, friends and coworkers. Noting that his brother, who also works on the test site, could have been in his place that day, Mauzy said he never asks “why me.” He said he has formed a bond with the Families of his lost coworkers that will last a lifetime.

“They lost more than I lost,” he said.

Christina Gray said she was “overwhelmed” by the support she’s received in the past year and was at a loss for words about the dedication.

“It’s been an amazing and

absolutely beautiful day,” she said. “There are no other words for this.”

Trudy Henry added thanks to Holt and the ATC Team.

“They have been most helpful and supportive,” she said. “This [dedication] was more than we could ever imagine.”

Aberdeen Proving Ground leaders in attendance included Brig. Gen. Harold Green, deputy commander of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command; Gary Martin, RDECOM technical director; John Wallace, ATC technical director; Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander; APG Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney J. Rhoades; Brian Simmons, ATEC technical director; Col. Timothy Gowen, former commander of the 29th Aviation Brigade; James Johnson, former director, U.S. Army Developmental Test Command; and Susan Bilhorn, senior vice-president of Jacobs Engineering Corporation.

Representatives of Maryland Senator Benjamin Cardin, Congressmen C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger and Frank Kratovil and Harford County Executive David R. Craig, also attended.

The cause of the May 2009 accident has not been identified. The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center at Fort Rucker, Ala. is leading the investigation.

Ball

From front page

Main Post Chapel’s Catholic choir director, sang the national anthem.

The ceremony included traditional toasts and a Table of Remembrance near the ballroom floor which was set for those Killed in Action, Missing in Action and Prisoners of War who have yet to return.

The table, symbolizing the frailty of POWs, held the traditional white tablecloth for purity of intentions; a single red rose for Families; a yellow ribbon for MIAs and POWs; a slice of lemon, “to remind us of their bitter fate;” salt for the Families’ tears; an inverted glass for “those who are not in attendance” and an empty chair as a reminder that “they are not here.”

Col. Orlando W. Ortiz, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, said that it is important to uphold military traditions, and to come together as a community, representing the Army as a collective team.

“Military balls are particularly important because it allows us to bring together the collective team of Soldiers, civilians and Families in an environment where we have the opportunity to show and experience great esprit de corps and camaraderie,” Ortiz said. “It builds that team that collectively moves forward and executes very well what our nation demands of us. And here at Aberdeen Proving Ground what our nation demands of us is very significant. The value added of Aberdeen Proving Ground to our national strength, our national policies is absolutely tremendous.”

Ortiz said that the tradition of celebrating the Army’s birthday, June 14, is a way to recognize and honor the sacrifices of those that came before us.

“A tradition recognizing what others started for our benefit,” Ortiz said.

Brig. Gen. Harold Greene, deputy commander of U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, Lt. Gen. James Pillsbury.

“You, who are serving so well at APG, are a culmination of two-hundred, thirty-five years of prior service,” Pillsbury said.



Photos by JIM BRIDGES, GARRISON PHOTOGRAPHER
From far left: Sgt. Leonardo Ayala, Sgt. Luis Mercado, Luis Sepulveda and Spc. Jose Ferrer, from the 248th Army Band Salsa Ensemble play several songs during the social hour at the APG Summer Ball held at Top of the Bay, June 4.

He said that he was impressed with the current generation’s desire to volunteer to serve while the country is at war, and that it is a great generation, comparable to the generation that served during World War II, often called “The Greatest Generation,” a term coined by television journalist and author Tom Brokaw.

Pillsbury said that young Soldiers today are enthusiastic about making a positive contribution to their nation.

“All they (Soldiers) are asking for is good solid leadership,” Pillsbury said. “APG is going through a tremendous change and you are all handling it better than any organization I could possibly imagine, thanks to some great leadership. May God bless you, God bless our Army and God bless our nation.”

The event featured a cake cutting ceremony of the Army Birthday cake by Greene, Pillsbury and Spc. Sharia Leal,

the APG Soldier of the Year, and a grog bowl ceremony.

The posting and retiring of colors was led by Sgt. Sean McBride, Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic, in a combined color guard.

Music was provided by the 248th Army Band Salsa Ensemble from the Puerto Rico National Guard, and the AMC Band Jazz Ensemble “Hazardous Materiel.”

After the formal portion of the evening ended, attendees danced to music provided by a disk jockey.

Capt. Ginger Hammerquist, commander of APG Garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company, who helped organize the event, said that she felt the ball was an important way for the APG community to come together to celebrate the past, present and future of the Army.

“Our 2010 APG Summer Ball created a sensational link between the vibrant

traditions and promising future of the Army and APG,” she said.

Leal said that she felt it was important for young Soldiers to uphold military traditions and she enjoyed the opportunity to meet and socialize with people in the community.

“I love to see the officers, noncommissioned officers and junior enlisted socializing with one another,” she said.

Ken Davis, who was part of a group representing military spouses in the grog bowl ceremony, said that he enjoyed taking part in the symbolic tradition, which promotes camaraderie in the military community. Davis said that it was his first time attending a military summer ball.

“The ball had many interesting traditions,” Davis said. “Sometimes traditions are taken for granted, but I think it is important to think about the meaning behind the tradition.”



Spc. Sharia Leal, Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldier of the Year, Lt. Gen. James Pillsbury, Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, and Brig. Gen. Harold Greene, deputy commander of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command cut the Army Birthday cake.



Sgts. Brian Perez, left, Victor Villafane, center, from the Joint Personal Effects Depot, Spc. Sonny Cooper, Garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company, right in a combined color guard led by Sgt. Sean McBride, U.S. Kirk Army Health Clinic (not pictured) post the colors.



FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

Activities/Events

New York City shopping trip

Leisure Travel will offer eight hours of shopping in New York City June 19. Enjoy the city without the driving or parking problems. Cost is \$36 per person and includes roundtrip bus transportation. The bus will depart 7:55 a.m. from the Edgewood Best Western parking lot at Route 24 and return 10:30 p.m.

For more information or to reserve a seat, call MWR Leisure Travel Office, Aberdeen Area Recreation Center, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-Leisure-Travel@conus.army.mil.

Celtic Fling and Highlander Games

MWR Leisure Travel Services has tickets for a Celtic Fling and Highlander games, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., June 26 and 27 at Mount Hope Estates and Winery located on 2775 Lebanon Road, Manheim, Pa. A one-day pass costs \$23.95 for adults and \$9 for children ages 5 through 11.

A free week of camp for Military children

Boys and Girls Clubs are offering children of National Guard, Reserve and active duty Families a free week of camp at any club location. Mission Youth Outreach is a services-sponsored youth outreach initiative with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Boys and Girls Clubs of Harford County serve 3,500 children at four Clubs in Harford County and one in Carroll County. Through a variety of educational, sports and recreation, health, arts, and character development programs, the Clubs create a positive environment where children are encouraged to develop their ambitions and turn them into reality.

For more information, call 410-272-0010, ext. 10 or visit www.bgcharford-co.org.

Birdie Cafe opens at Exton Golf Course

The Birdie Café is now open for the golf season at Exton Golf Course in the Edgewood Area. Patio or indoor seating is offered at the Exton Clubhouse. The café is open 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10

a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Menu options include grilled hot dogs, burgers, chili and pulled BBQ Chicken sandwiches, chips, snacks, and assorted beverages.

Firecracker Fun Run/Walk July 1

Celebrate Independence Day early during the 5K Firecracker Fun Run/2K Walk to be held 3 p.m. at the Aberdeen Area Athletic Center, building 3326, July 1. Registration is \$10 through June 25; \$15 through June 30; and \$20 July 1. All participants will receive an event t-shirt. Register online as www.apgmwr.com.

The event is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders: military, civilians, contractors, retirees, Family members and guests.

For more information call 410-278-7571/7479.

MWR Leisure Travel offers discount tickets to amusement parks

MWR Leisure Travel offers discount tickets to amusement parks in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Virginia.

Get discount tickets for Six Flags America, Six Flags Great Adventure, Dorney Park/Wild Water Kingdom, Dutch Wonderland, Hershey Park, Sesame Place, Busch Gardens, Kings Dominion, Colonial Williamsburg and more.

Take advantage of the Atlantic City Daily Run for \$28 per person, roundtrip transportation included. Discount tickets are also available for the Baltimore Zoo, Luray Caverns, Va., Longwood Gardens, Pa., Medieval Times Dinner and Tournament, the National Aquarium, Regal Movie Theaters, Spirit Cruise in Washington, D.C. and more.

Prices are subject to change without notice. Gate prices may include tax and other applicable fees. Season passes are only available for a limited time; season passes are prepaid tickets, and should be ordered three weeks in advance.

For seasonal tickets and specials visit www.apgmwr.com. Prices are subject to change without notice.

For more information, call MWR Tickets and Leisure Travel Services, building 3326, 410-278-4011/4907 or e-mail APGR-USAG-MWR-LeisureTravel@conus.army.mil.

Child, Youth and School Services summer program

The Aberdeen and Edgewood Summer Program will run for nine weeks, June 21 through Aug. 21, Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The program is open to all qualifying children who have completed first through eighth grades. Parents can sign up for the weeks that fit their schedule.

Fees are based on total Family income.

Waiting list applications may be picked up daily at the Edgewood Area Youth Services, building E1902, or the Outreach Services, building 2752 or faxed to 410-278-4658.

Waiting list applications will not be distributed or accepted at the Aberdeen Youth Services.

This year the Summer Program waiting list applications will also be available online at www.apgmwr.com under Child & Youth Services, Central Registration.

A \$20 non-refundable deposit is

required per child at the time of registration for each week that a parent selects. There will be no registration fee or changes in fees.

For more information, call the Outreach Services Office, 410-278-7571/7479.

Volunteer today

Explore a new career, develop new skills, network with other professionals and create opportunities. Army Community Service has many opportunities and needs support for its various programs.

For more information, call Army Community Service, 410-278-2453.

Looking for a job?

Visit FMWR Jobs Available at www.apgmwr.com.
All jobs for Aberdeen Proving Ground are listed at <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/naf.htm> or check out AAFES Jobs link <http://odin.aafes.com/employment/> for additional job opportunities.

June bowling specials

- Early bird special: Bowl 7 to 10 a.m. for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$1.50.
- Cosmic Saturdays: Each Saturday, receive one hour of bowling, one whole cheese pizza and one pitcher of soda for \$32.
- Dollar night: Each Friday, bowl 9:30 to 11 p.m., bowl for \$1 per game. Shoe rental costs \$1.

Call for availability of lanes on discounted days and hours.

APG Bowling Center Snack Bar specials Building 2342

The Bowling Center hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday and Tuesday; 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday; 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday; 1 to 11 p.m., Saturday; and 1 to 6 p.m., Sunday.

Week of June 14

Special #1: Pork barbeque with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$6.25

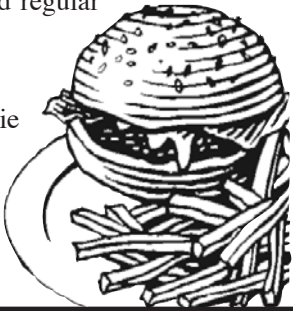
Special #2: Egg salad with potato chips, cookie and regular soda for \$4.25.

Week of June 21

Special #1: Crab cake sub with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$9.50.

Special #2: Two hot dogs with French fries, cookie and regular soda for \$4.95.

For more information or to place an order, call 410-278-4041. Orders must be placed before 10:30 a.m.





FAMILY AND MORALE, WELFARE & RECREATION

EDGE! program teaches APG youths golf techniques

Story and photo by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

Aberdeen Proving Ground youths learned and practiced golf techniques after school on Mondays and Wednesdays at the Ruggles Golf Course, in the Aberdeen Area.

The golf program is part of an ongoing Child, Youth and School Services program called EDGE!

EDGE! which stands for Experience, Develop, Grow, and Excel, is open to youths whose Families work on APG as service members, civilian employees, or contacts. The EDGE! program is designed for children and teens in grades 1 through 12 to learn new skills and discover new hobbies using Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities and partner facilities.

Ruben Ferguson, head professional at the Edgewood Area's Exton Golf Course, and Dave Correll, head professional at Ruggles Golf Course, served as instructors for the EDGE! golf program.

"We taught the children basic golf techniques and golf course etiquette," Ferguson said. "We wanted the children to have fun while learning a new skill."

Several children said that the EDGE! golf program was their first time on the golf course.

"It was my first time golfing. I liked being on the golf course, learning something new," said Matthew Baptiste, 9.

"I really enjoyed the class," said Bryson Foye, 10. "We started by learning different techniques, like what golf



Matthew Baptiste, left, 9, practices his swing at the driving range while Ruben Ferguson, right, EDGE! program instructor watches during an EDGE! golf class held at the Ruggles Golf Course. Ferguson, head professional at the Edgewood Area's Exton Golf Course, and Dave Correll, (not pictured) head professional at Ruggles Golf Course, served as instructors for the EDGE! golf program held on Monday and Wednesdays in May.

clubs to use and golf terms."

During the last session of the golf program, parents and Family members were invited to come out and participate with their youth or teen. Family members watched as youth and teens participated in a golf competition, using techniques that they learned during the program.

"I think that the EDGE! program is a very good program for children and teens,"

said Arlene Baptiste, parent of Matthew Baptiste. "I think more should take advantage of this free program. It gives them a chance to learn a new skill, while having fun and spending time with friends."

About the EDGE! program

The EDGE! is a free program for teens. School aged children, first through fifth graders, will be charged the school age child care rate, which is \$5 per hour.

Chuck Rose, a FMWR partnership specialist with APG's CYSS Office who is the lead for the program, added that military children receive 15 hours of free programs each month, which can be applied to an EDGE! program. Rose said that although the EDGE! is not a vocational program, it is designed to get youth to think and start planning for the future by helping them build life skills.

"I hope that more youth will take advantage of the free classes during the summer," Rose said.

During the last session of each program parents and Families invited to come out and participate with their youth or teen during the last session of each program.

"This is all about getting the youth and teens involved in something good and the parents having fun with their kids!" Rose said.

Registration is now open for several EDGE! programs for the upcoming months. See announcements in the APG News and www.apgmwr.com/family/youth_edge.html for more information on upcoming programs.

"Sign your kids up now for lots of fun during the summer," Rose said.

Registration at the CYSS Central Registration Office, building 2752, is required. For more details, contact Rose, 410-278-1399, or chuck.rose1@us.army.mil.

The EDGE! program is also looking for volunteers to help facilitate upcoming programs. If you have some expertise you would like to share in a program in the future, please contact Rose.

SKIES Unlimited

For more information or to register for a SKIES Unlimited class, call the Central Registration Office, building 2752, 410-278-7571/7479. Open to all DoD ID card holders. For an appointment, e-mail stacie.umbarger@conus.army.mil.

Private Piano lessons

SKIES Unlimited private piano lessons will be given for ages 4 to 18, 1 to 7 p.m., on Monday or Tuesday, June 21 through July 19, and July 26 through Aug. 16, at the AA Youth Center, building 2522.

Lessons cost \$68 per student and include six weeks of 30-minute lessons once a week. Parents choose which time frame session they want to sign-up for when they register their child.

Students will be responsible for pur-

chasing the required books for the course as recommended by the instructor.

Pirate Clinic for Mateys

Arrggghh, mateys! Ages 4 to 6 can join a Pirate Clinic, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., from June 28 to July 1 at the Aberdeen Area Youth Center, building 2522.

Welcome to SKIES Unlimited pirate cove where all the pirates will gather for a brand new adventure. Pirates aboard our ship will make their very own feather swords, discover the many places pirates explored or searched for buried treasure and more. Cost is \$45 per person. There will be a pirate ship race at the conclusion of festivities. Yo Ho, Ho... It's a Pirate Cove for you. Every pirate should bring a nut-free snack daily.

Little Princess Workshop

Girls ages 4 to 6 will stretch their imaginations as well as their toes as they dance their way through a storybook collage of fairy tales. The Little Princess Workshop will be held 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., June 21 to 24, at the Edgewood Area Youth Center, building E1902. Children will explore elements of creative movement, modern ballet, tap, and jazz, and construct simple costumes and props in a daily craft activity. Look forward to an enchanting dance presentation for Family and friends. Clothing should include solid color leotard, pink tights, ballet slippers, tap shoes (or hard-soled shoes) or a favorite princess costume. Bring a snack

and drink daily. Cost is \$45 per child.

Private Guitar Lessons

Private guitar lessons for ages 7 through 18 will be held 1 to 7 p.m., on Monday or Tuesday, June 21 through July 19 and July 26 through Aug. 16, at the AA Youth Center, building 2522.

No experience is necessary. Cost of the lessons is \$68 per student and includes one 30-minute session per week for six weeks, once a week.

Students also are required to purchase books required for the course as recommended by the instructor.

Books are a onetime purchase. Students must also provide their own guitar.



Medhat Abuhantash



Rick Cozby



William Gilbert



Dr. Corde Lane



Chris Manning



Sharon Meirose



Anthony Subrizi



Deirdre Sumpter

APG Senior Service College Fellowship graduates first class

Story by
RACHEL PONDER
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Senior Service College Fellowship program graduated its inaugural class of eight fellows, as friends, family and co-workers cheered them on, during a ceremony May 19 at Top of the Bay.

The Defense Acquisition University developed the SSCF program to provide leadership training for civilians to prepare them for senior acquisition leadership roles.

The SSCF program provides ten months of acquisition and leadership training, developing government civilian acquisition leaders, GS-14 and above, for critical senior leadership roles such as Product and Product Managers, Program Executive Officers and other key senior acquisition positions.

The SSCF program was implemented at APG after the successful implementation of SSCF programs in Huntsville, Ala. in 2006 and in Warren, Mich. in 2007.

The graduation program opened with the national anthem played by the U.S.

Army Materiel Band.

Jim Oman, director of APG’s SSCF who served as narrator for the program, welcomed attendees and introduced distinguished guests,

Academic Director of Military Programs, Office of Academic Affairs, Webster University, Dr. Richard St. Clair, Dean of the Capital and Northeast Region, Bob Daughtery, and Executive Director of the U. S. Army Test and Evaluation Command, James Streilein, who served as the keynote speaker.

During Daughtery’s remarks he said the SSCF program was designed to give civilians the same leadership skills that their uniformed peers have had the opportunity to learn.

“We couldn’t ask for a better first class,” Daughtery said. “The placement by the organizations is evident of that. They are all going to positions of greater responsibility, taking with them the leadership skills that they have learned over course of the year.”

Daughtery said that the program requires dedication and hard work from the fellows.

“You really have to develop yourself

as a student, a leader, and as a person,” he said.

Daughtery said that program was an opportunity for fellows to network with one another, and to build a support system as they go on to positions of power within their organization.

“They can look at this (program) fondly and also professionally in the years to come.”

Daughtery thanked Parker Bennett, program coordinator and Oman for their work.

“Jim has cemented this Senior Service College as part of the firm foundation of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Community,” he said. We look forward to being a part of this community for many years to come, serving this community.”

During Streilein’s remarks, he said that in the past the Army did not provide leadership training like the SSCF program to civilians.

Streilein said that most civilians did not receive any formal training before being selected for senior leadership.

“Getting thrust into a leadership position, without a lot of training was kind of a tough road,” Streilein said, of his own experience of becoming a civilian in a leadership position.

Streilein said that he thinks that the Army is moving forward by providing senior leadership training for civilians.

“I hope you see this as just the beginning,” Streilein said to the fellows. Now you have to take the skills you have, and apply them.”

He said that what keeps him going everyday is the work that Army acquisition does to support the troops, to ensure that their equipment is working in the field.

“We are an Army at war and there are big challenges ahead, but I am sure with the kind of training you have taken in the past year, you will continue to make great contributions to Army acquisitions,” Streilein said.

After the ceremony, Deirdre Sumpter, an SSCF program graduate who also received a Master of Arts in Management and Leadership from Webster University, remarked that she was proud of her classmate’s achievements.

“No words can describe your feelings when you achieve your goals,” Sumpter said. “It was an intense program but it was worth it in the end.”

Sumpter added that as a result of the education and training she received she

has been promoted to a division chief in her organization, the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

About the SSCF program

The SSCF program provides ten months of acquisition and leadership training, developing government civilian acquisition leaders, GS-14 and above, for critical senior leadership roles such as Product and Product Managers, Program Executive Officers, and other key senior acquisition positions.

The program contains core elements on acquisition leadership, personal leadership, global leadership, research, program management and national security. It also includes interaction with both government and private industry via on-site visits and workshops, as well as with executive-level guest speakers from throughout the government and industry.

The program’s curriculum focuses on developing a broad understanding of the defense acquisition process in addition to the effects acquisition policies and practices have on America’s national industrial base, economic well being and security strategy, as well as on global security markets.

APG’s SSCF inaugural class began the program on July 27, 2009. Fellows who complete the program are awarded a SSCF diploma and receive certificates for the Program Managers Course, (PMT 401), Leading in the Acquisition Environment, (ACQ 450), Integrated Acquisition for Decision Makers, (ACQ 451) and Forging Stakeholder Relationships (ACQ 452). With the completion of additional courses, fellows may also be awarded a Master of Arts in Management and Leadership degree from Webster University.

For more information about the program, call 410-436-5761.

Diploma recipients

- Medhat Abuhantash
- Rick Cozby*
- William Gilbert*
- Dr. Corde Lane*
- Chris Manning
- Sharon Meirose
- Anthony Subrizi
- Deirdre Sumpter*

**Received a Masters of Arts in Management and Leadership from Webster University.*

Torch

From front page

parking lot on Route 40 where after taking the torch from the runners from Havre de Grace, they ran to the Aberdeen City Hall and Police Station.

Capt. John A. Newman of the Howard County Police Department and president of the Law Enforcement Torch Run greeted the runners, thanked them for their efforts and invited all to come watch the summer games that were held June 11 through 13 at Towson University.

“We’re always excited about APG supporting us,” he said.

Participating groups

Capt. Dawn Fischer, commandant of the APG Police Academy noted that it was be the academy’s final class. The class graduates June 25 and the academy disbands. The police academy at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. will continue the training.

“This was a very fit class and they were all enthusiastic and supportive,” Fischer said.

Two DES K9s ran the entire run with their handlers. Police K9 handler Leonard Moses said the dogs are used to the competitive atmosphere.

“We participate in events like the K9 triathlon throughout the year,” he said. “We got involved because this is for a good cause.”

SRT officer Paul Chin said that every member of his team who was not working was running.

“We try to [run] every year and this time it’s taking place on a training day, so we thought we’d run as a team for [physical training],” he said.

Another SRT team member, Jeremy Rondone, brought his 8-year-old daughter, Jaydnn. He said they run tighter about two miles twice a week.

Jaydnn said she wants to be an Olympic gymnast when she grows up.

“But right now I just like to run,” she said.

Betsy Jiron, SOMD torch run liaison met the group when it arrived in Aberdeen.

“They had a great turnout and I think it’s really neat to see K9 units and Families get involved,” she said. “This group is fantastic.”



Photo by ERIC SEMKE, DES
Harford County Sheriff Department vehicles escort Directorate of Emergency Services police officers running in the Special Olympics of Maryland Torch Run down Route June 8.